United Nations DP/CCF/BRA/1/Extension 1

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

Distr.: General
22 March 2000

Original: English

Annual session 2000
12-23 June 2000, Geneva
Item 12 of the provisional agenda
Country cooperation frameworks and related matters

Extension of the first country cooperation framework for Brazil

Note by the Administrator

Period of extension:
1 January 2000 to 31 December 2001

I. Background and justification

1. The first country cooperation framework (CCF) for Brazil was prepared by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency for the period 1997-1999 and approved by the Executive Board at its third regular session 1997.

2. The Government is requesting a two-year extension so as to enable the agencies in the United Nations system in Brazil to harmonize their programme periods. The following United Nations agencies intend to harmonize their programme periods in 2002: UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pan American Health Organization, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund.

3. The Brazilian Cooperation Agency believes that the harmonization of the programming periods will greatly contribute to cohesive and integrated development in Brazil, particularly in the light of the Government's newly launched multi-year plan 2000-2003. The proposed federal government budget in the amount of 1,113 billion reales for four years is currently in discussion in the National Congress, focusing on partnerships between the public and private sectors to achieve the objectives of the plan's 365 programmes, which fall under five major areas: (a) national strategies for integration and development; (b) state management;

00-39027 (E) 150500

(c) environment; (d) jobs and income opportunities; (e) information and knowledge. The goal is to construct a new development model oriented towards satisfying the basic necessities of the population and a more equitable distribution of the fruits of economic growth among Brazilians.

4. To achieve this goal, the Government has formulated the following six strategic directives for the next four years: (a) consolidate economic stability with sustained growth; (b) promote sustainable development oriented towards generation of job and income opportunities; (c) combat poverty and promote citizenship as well as social inclusion; (d) consolidate democracy and the defence of human rights; (e) reduce interregional disparities; and (f) promote the rights of minorities who are victims of prejudice and discrimination.

II. Objectives

5. The 1997-1999 CCF thematic areas are: (a) social cohesion and the reduction of poverty; (b) modernization of socio-economic infrastructures and sustainable environmental development; and (c) governance and the establishment of a modern and efficient State. The CCF continues to be highly relevant to the Government's multi-year plan 2000-2003. Examples of results obtained in strategic areas are given below for each CCF area.

A. Social cohesion and the reduction of poverty

6. With respect to the first CCF thematic area, programmes contribute to reduction of income inequality through asset redistribution policies in areas such as education, agriculture, health, and credit, within an enabling environment for development.

7. UNDP cooperation with the National Institute of Education and Research has helped to establish a world class educational evaluation system, whose results have been used to improve policy formulation and implementation. Training at the state and local levels (of education secretariats, principals and community leaders) has strengthened decentralized planning capacity, enabling 8,000 out of a target of 22,000 primary schools in the north-east to receive resources directly from the central Government.

8. The alliance with the Banco do Nordeste to develop participatory methodologies to strengthen the creditworthiness of small rural and urban producers has inspired multi-billion-dollar Brazilian banks like the Caixa Econômica Federal and the Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social to seek UNDP advice in microcredit schemes to target excluded populations.

9. Greater citizen participation has been promoted through support to the national programme on human rights, which has led, for example, to the adoption by the federal Government of such practices as the witness protection programme and citizens' legal centres in socially excluded communities.

10. Building on the first national human development report, published in 1996, UNDP supported a municipal human development index for some 5,000 Brazilian municipalities, as well as a living conditions index, both of which had a significant

impact on development approaches at the local level, helping to select targets of poverty-reduction programmes. So far, three major state capitals are formulating social redistributive policies at the municipal level. Demand for such advice is expected to increase as the new multi-year plan focuses even more strongly on the reduction of social inequalities and regional disparities.

B. Modernization of socio-economic infrastructures and sustainable environmental development

11. With respect to the second CCF area, support is provided to national priorities such as universal access to energy and to telecommunications, building on the successful partnership to establish the Internet in Brazil. Continued support to the national environment programme and the incorporation of Agenda 21 in government planning at all levels is also envisioned. UNDP has also played a catalytic role in establishing a sustainable local development forum where major actors discuss concerted plans of action, develop common indicators to monitor progress and impact, and share best practice. A new and challenging opportunity has emerged for a policy advisory role for UNDP in the areas of climate change and the Clean Development Mechanism.

C. Governance

12. As for the third CCF area, the success of the multi-year plan depends on a shift to a public administration that is truly citizen-, service- and results-oriented. UNDP supports the major state reform programme through, *inter alia*, setting up regulatory agencies in the areas of health, energy, sanitation and social security. At the state level, UNDP support to reform of tax and financial administration has been so successful that the number of states seeking such support has doubled from 10 to 20.

13. The Executive Board had an opportunity to review the focus and impact of the programme during its mission to Brazil from 22 to 28 February 1999. A country review is scheduled for 2000. In addition, during the year 2000, the United Nations system will be undertaking a common country assessment (CCA) to support preparation of a United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

III. Recommendation

14. The Administrator recommends that the Executive Board approve the extension of the first CCF for Brazil for a period of two years, from 1 January 2000 through 31 December 2001.

Resource mobilization target table for Brazil (2000-2001)

Source	*Amount (In thousands of United States dollars)*	*Comments*
UNDP regular resources		
Estimated carry-over into 2000	(254)	
TRAC 1.1.1	719	
TRAC 1.1.2	0 to 66.7 per cent of TRAC 1.1.1	This range of percentages is presented for initial planning purposes only. The actual assignment will depend on the availability of high-quality programmes. Any increase in the range of percentages would also be subject to availability of resources.
Other resources		
SPPD/STS	450	
Subtotal	**915**[a]	
UNDP other resources		
Government cost-sharing	400 000	
Sustainable development funds	25 528	
	of which:	
GEF	17 397	
Montreal Protocol	8 131	
Funds, trust funds and other		
UNIFEM	200	
Subtotal	**425 728**	
Grand total	**426 643**[a]	

[a] Not inclusive of TRAC 1.1.2, which is allocated regionally for subsequent country application.

Abbreviations: GEF = Global Environment Facility; IPF = indicative planning figure; SPPD = support for policy and programme development; STS = support for technical services; TRAC = target for resource assignment from the core; UNIFEM = United Nations Development Fund for Women.